

**ABSTRACT**

A method and apparatus are provided for updating XML views of relational data. The present invention translates an update to an XML view of a relational database into update operations to be performed on the underlying relational database itself. The disclosed XML view update manager can perform updates in the context of an underlying relational database that serves the XML-based application, as well as traditional relational database management system (RDBMS) applications. Given a pre-existing underlying relational database schema and an XML view defined on it, the present invention provides a framework for generating update plans to perform an update without introducing side-effects to other parts of the view.